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GRANT.

THEMESSAGE

Review of the Condition of the Country-A Full Report of the Document.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6 .- The following is the President's message:-

President's message:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:—In coming before you for the first time as Chief Magiswate of this great nation, it is with gratitude to the Giver of all Good for the many benefits we enjoy. We are blessed with peace at home, and are without entangling alliances abroad to forebode trouble, with a territory unsurpassed in fertility, of an area equal to the abundant support of five hundred millions of people, and abounding in every variety of useful mineral in quantity sufficient to supply the world for generations; with abundant crops; with a variety of climate attapted to the production of every species of earth's riches, and suited to the habits, tastes, and requirements of every living thing; with a population of 40,000,000 of free people, all speaking one language; with facilities for every mortal to acquire an education; with astitutions closing to none the avenues of fame, or any blessing of fortune that may be coveted; with freedom of the pulpit, the press, and the school; with a revenue flowing into the national treasury beyond the requirements of the Government. Happily harmony is rapidly being restored within our own borders, manufactures hitherto unknown in our sountry are springing up in all sections, producing a degree of national independence unequalled by that of any other power. These blessings and countless others are entrusted to your care and mine for safekeeping for the brief period of our tenure of office. others are entrusted to your care and mine for safe-keeping for the brief period of our tenure of office. In a short time we must, each of us, return to the ranks of the people who have conferred upon us our honors, and account to them for our steward-ship. I carnestly desire that neither you nor I may be condemned by a free and enlightened constitu-ency, nor by our own consciences. Emerging from a Rebellion of gigantic magnitude, aided as it was a Rebellion of gigantic magnitude, aided as it was by the sympathies and assistance of nations with which we were at peace, eleven States of the Union were, four years ago, left without a legal State gov

A national debt had been contracted. American commerce was almost driven from the seas. The industry of one-half of the country had been taken from the control of the capitalist and placed where all labor rightfully belongs—in the keeping of the laborer. The work of restoring State governments loyal to the Union, of protecting and fostering free labor and providing means for paying the interest on the public debt has, received ample attention from Congress.

Although your efforts have not met with the suc cess in all particulars that might have been desired, yet, on the whole, they have been more satisfactory than could have been reasonably anticipated.

Seven States which passed ordinances of secession have been fully restored to their places in the Union. The eighth (Georgia) held an election at which she ratified a constitution republican in form, elected a Governor, members of Congress, a State Legislature, and all other officers required. The Governor was duly installed, and the Legis.

iature met and performed all the acts then required of them by the Reconstruction acts of Congress. Subsequently, however, in violation of the Constitu-tion which they had just ratified, as since decided by the Supreme Court of the State, they unseat the colored members of the Legislature and admitte to seats some members who are disqualified by the third clause of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution, one article which they themselves had contributed to ratify. Under these circumstances I would submit to you whether it would not be wise without delay to enact a law authorizing the Governor of Georgia to convene the members originally elected to the Legislature, requiring each member to take the oath prescribed by the Reconstruction acts, and none to be admitted who are ineligible under the third clause of the four-

teenth amendment.

The freedmen, under the protection which they have received, are making rapid progress in learning, and no complaints are heard of lack of industry on their part where they receive fair remuneration

The means provided for paying the interest of the public debt, with all other expenses of the Government, are more more than ample. The loss of our commerce is the only result of the late Rebellion which has not received sufficient attention from you. To this subject I call your earnest attention. I will not now suggest plans by which this object may be effected, but will if necessary make it the subject of a but will, if necessary, make it the subject of a special message during the session of Congress, At the March term Congress, by a joint resolution, authorized the Executive to order elections in the States of Virginia, Mississippi, and Texas, to submit to them the constitution which each had previously in conventions framed, and submit the Constitution conventions framed, and solution the Constitution either entire or in separate parts to be voted upon, at the discretion of the Executive. Under this authority, elections were called. In Virginia the election took place on the 6th of July, 1869. The Goveenor and Lieutenant-Governor elected have been installed. The Legislature met and did all required by this resolution, and by all the reconstruction acts of This resolution, and by all the reconstruction acts of Congress, and abstained from all doubtful authority. I recommend that her Senators and Representatives and the State be fully restored to her place in the

family of States.

Elections were called in Mississippi and Texas, to commence on the 30th of November, 1869, and to last for two days in Mississippi, and four days in Texas. The elections have taken place, but the result is not known. It is to be hoped that the acts of the Legisknown. It is to be hoped that the acts of the Legislatures of these States, when they meet, will be such as to receive your approval, and thus close the work of reconstruction. Among the evils growing out of the Rebellion, and not yet referred to, is that of an irredeemable cursency. It is an evil which I hope will receive your most carnest attention. It is a duty, and one of the highest duties of Government, to secure to its citizens a medium of exchange of fixed and unvarying value. This implies a return to a specie basis, and no substitute for it can be devised. It should be commenced now

it can be devised. It should be commenced now and reached at the earliest practicable moment consistent with a fair regard to the interests of the debtor class. Immediate resumption, if practicable, would not be desirable. It would compel the debtor class to pay beyond their contracts the premium on gold at the date of purchase, and would bring benkruptcy and ruin to thousands. Fluctuations, however, in the paper value of the measure of all values, gold, is detrimental to the interests of trade. It makes the man of business an involuntary gambler, for in all sales, where future payment is to be made, both parties speculate as to what will be the value of the currency to be paid or received. I earnestly recommend to you, then, such received. I carnestly recommend to you, then, such legislation as will insure a gradual return to specie
payments, and put an immediate stop to fluctuations
in the value of currency. The methods to secure the
former of these results are as numerous
as are the speculators in political ecoas are the speculators in political economy, I see but one way, and that
is to authorize the Treasnry to redeem its own paper
at a fixed price whenever presented, and to withhold
from circulation all currency so redeemed until sold
again for gold. The vast resources of the nation,
both developed and undeveloped, ought to make our
credit the best on earth, with a less burden of taxation than the citizen has endured for six years past.
The entire public debt could be paid in ten years,
but it is not desirable that the people should be
taxed to pay it in that time. Year by year the
ability to pay increases in a rapid ratio; but the burden of interest ought to be reduced as rapidly as
can be done without the violation of contract. The

can be done without the violation of contract. The public debt is represented in great part by bonds having from five to twenty and from ten to forty naving from five to twenty and from ten to forty years to run, bearing interest at the rate of 6 per cent, and 5 per cent, respectively. It is optional with the Government to pay the bonds at any period after the expiration of the last time mentioned upon their face. The time has already expired when a great part of them may be taken up, and is rapidly approaching when all may; for it is believed that all which are not due may be replaced by bonds bearing a rate of interest not exceeding four and one-half per cent, and as rapidly as the remainder becomes due that they may be replaced in the same way. To accomplish this it may be necessary to authorize the interest to be paid at either of three or four of the money centres of Europe, or by any Assistant Treasurer of the United States, at the option of the holders of the bonds. I suggest this subject for the consideration of Congress; also, simultaneously with this the propriety of redeeming our currency, as before suggested, at its market value at the sime the law goes into effect.

of redeeming our currency, as before suggested, its market value at the time the law goes into en nereasing the rate at which currency will be bought and sold from day to day, or week to week, at the same rate of interest as the Government pays upon

The subjects of tariff and internal taxation will necessarily receive your attention. The revenues of the country are greater than the requirements, and may with safety be reduced; but as the funding of the debt in a 4 or a 4% per cent, loan would reduce annual current expenses largely, thus, after funding justifying a greater reduction of taxation than may be reduced safely from sixty to eighty millions per be reduced safely from sixty to eighty millions per annum at once, and may be still further reduced from

from year to year as the resources of the country are developed. The report of the Secretary of the Treasury shows the receipts of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 50, 1869, to be \$370,943,747, and the expenditures, including interest, bounties, etc., to be \$321,490,597. The estimates for the enming year are more favorable to the Government, and will no doubt shows a receipt because there are the country to the state of the country to the country to the state of the country to the country to the state of the country to the count and will no doubt show a much larger increase of the public debt. The receipts in the Treasury beyond expenditures have exceeded the amount necessary to place to the credit of the sinking fund,

necessary to place to the credit of the sinking rund, as provided by law.

To lock up the surplus in the Treasury, and withhold it from circulation, would lead to such a contraction of the currency as to cripple trade and seriously affect the prosperity of the country. Under these circumstances, the Secretary of the Treasury and myself heartily concurred in the propriety of using all the surplus currency in the Treasury in the purchase of Government bonds, thus reducing the interest-bearing indebtedness of the country, and of submitting to Congress the using all the surplus currency in the Treasury in the purchase of Government bonds, thus reducing the interest-bearing indebtedness of the country, and of submitting to Congress the question of the disposition to be made of the bonds so purchased. The bonds now held by the Treasury amount to about \$75,000,000, including those belonging to the sinking fund. I recommend that the whole be placed to the credit of the sinking fund, Your attention is respectfully invited to the recommendations of the Secretary of the Treasury for the creation of the office of Commissioner of Custralian and the creation of the office of Commissioner of Custralian currently contained the creation of the office of Commissioner of Custralian currently contained the creation of the office of Commissioner of Custralian currently contained the contained that the creation of the office of Commissioner of Custralian currently contained the contained that the con creation of the office of Commissioner of Cus-toms Revenue, for the increase of salary to certain classes of officials, and the substitution of increased national bank circulation to replace the outstanding three per cent. certificates, and most especially to his recommendation for the repeal of laws allowing shares of fines, penalties, forfeitures, etc., to officers of the Government and to informers. The office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue is

one of the most arduous and responsible under the Government. It falls but little if any short of a Cabinet position in its importance and responsibilities. I would ask for it, therefore, such legislation are in the office moon a footas in your judgment will place the office upon a footing of dignity commensurate with its importance, and with a character and qualifications of the class of men required to fill it properly.

As the United States is the freest of all nations. so, too, its people sympathize with all peoples strug-gling for liberty and self-government. But while so sympathizing, it is due to our honor that we should abstain from enforcing our views upon unwilling nations, and from taking an interested part, without invitation, in the quarrels between different nations, or between governments and their subjects. Our course should always be in conformity with strict justice and law, international and local. Such has been the policy of the administration in dealing with these questions. For more than a year a valuable province of Spain, and a near neighbor of ours, in whom all our people cannot but feel a deep interest, has been struggling for independence and freedom.

The people and Government of the United States entertain the same warm feelings and sympathies for the people of Cuba in their pending struggle that they manifested throughout the previous struggles beteen Spain and her former colonies, in behalf of the latter, but the contest has never assumed a condition which amounts to a war in the sense of international law, or which would show the existence of a de facto political organization of the insurgents, sufficient to justify a recognition of belligerency. The principle is maintained, however, that this nation is its own judge when to accord the rights of belligerency either to a people struggling to free themselves from a government they believe to be oppressive, or to independent nations at war with each other. The United States have no disposition to interfere with the existing relations of Spain to her colonial possessions on this Continent. They believe that in due time Spain and other European powers will find their interest in terminating these relations and establishing their present dependencies as independent powers, members of the family of nations. These dependencies are no longer regarded as subject to sumed a condition which amounts to a war in the

dependencies are no longer regarded as subject to transfer from one European power to another. When the present relation of the colonies ceases, they are the present relation of the colonies ceases, they are to become independent powers, exercising the right of choice and of self-control in the determination of their future conditions and relations with other powers. The United States, in order to put a step to bloodshed in Cuba, and in the interest of a neighboring people, proposed their good offices to bring the existing contest to a termination. The offer nos being accepted by Spain, on a basis which we believed could be received by Cuba, was withdrawn. It is hoped that the good offices of the United States may yet prove advantageous for the settlement of this unhappy strife. Meanwhile illegal expeditions against Cuba have been broken up. It has been the endeavor of the administration to execute the neutrality laws in good faith, no matter how unpleaneutrality laws in good faith, no matter how unplea-sant the task, made so by the suffering we have ensant the task, made so by the sthering we have endured from lack of like good faith towards us by other nations. On the 26th of March last the United States schooner Lizzie Major was arrested on the high seas by a Spanish frigate and two passengers taken from it and carried as prisoners to Cuba. Representation of these facts was made to the Spanish Government as soon as official information of them resched Weshington. information of them reached Washington. The two passengers were set at liberty, and the Spanish Government assured the United States that the captain of the frigate in making the capture had acted without law; that he had been reprimented for the irregularity of his conduct, and that the Spanish authorities in Cuba would not sensitive in Spanish sensitive anish authorities in Cuba would not sanction any act that could violate the rights or treat with disre-

spect that could violate the rights of treat with d.srespect the sovereignty of this nation.

The question of the seizure of the brig Mary Lowell at one of the Bahama Islands, by the spanish authorities, is now the subject of correspondence between this Government and those of Spain and Great Britain. The Captain-General of Cuba, about May ast, issued a proclamation authorizing search to be made of vessels on the high seas. Immediate remonstrance was made against this, whereupon the Cantain-General issued a new proclamation, limiting the right of search to vessels of the United States, so far as authorized under the treaty of 1795.

This proclamation, however, was immediately withdrawn. I have always felt that the most intimate relations should be cultivated between the Republic of the United States and all independent nations on this continent. It may be well worth con-sidering whether new treaties between the United States and them may not be profitably entered into to secure more intimate relations, friendly, commer-cial, or otherwise. The subject of an inter-oceanic canal, to connect the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, through the Isthmus of Darien, is one in which commerce is greatly interested.

Instructions have been given to our Minister to

the Republic of the United States of Colombia to endeavor to obtain authority for a survey by this Government, in order to determine the practicability of such an undertaking, and a charter for the right of way to build by private enterprise such a work if a survey prove it to be practicable. In order to comply with the agreement of the United States as to a mixed commission at Lima, so that adjustment of claims, it became necessary to send a commissioner and secretary to Lima in August last. commissioner and secretary to tima in August last. No sppropriation having been made by Congress for this purpose, it is now asked that one be made covering the past and future expenses of the commission. The good offices of the United States to bring about a peace between Spain and the South American republics with which she is at war having been accepted by Spain, Peru, and Call, a Congress has been invited, to be held in Washington during the present winter. Agrant has been given to Europeans present winter. A grant has been given to Europeans of an exclusive right of transit over the territory of Nicaragua, to which Costa Rica has given its assent, which it is alleged condicts with the vested rights of citizens of the United States. The Department of State has now this subject under consideration. The

Minister of Peru having made representation that there was a state of war between Peru and Spain, and that Spain was constructing in or near New York thirty gunboats, which might be used by New York thirty gumboats, which might be used by Spain in such a way as to relieve the naval forces of Spain, and also to operate against Peru, orders were given to prevent their departure. No further steps having been taken by the representative of the Peruvian Government to prevent the departure of these vessels, and I, not feeling authorized to detain the property of a nation with which we were at peace, on a mere executive order, the matter has been referred to the courts to decide.

conduct of the war between the allies and the Republic of Paraguay has made the intercourse with that country so difficult that it has been deemed advisable to withdraw our representatives from there. Towards the close of the last administration, a convention was signed at London for the settlement all outstanding claims between Great tain and the United States. Senate to its ratification. The time and circumstances attending the negotiation of that treaty were

unfavorable to its acceptance by the people of the United States, and its provisions are wholly inadequate for the settlement of the grave wrongs that had been sustained by this Government as well as by its citizens. The injuries resulting to the United States by reason of the course adonted by Great Ruthan briggs or large in course adopted by Great Britain during our late civil war in the increased rates of insurance, in the dim-inution of exports and imports, and other obstruc-tions to domestic industry and production—in its tions to domestic industry and production—in its effect upon the foreign commerce of the country, in the decrease and transfer to Great Britain of our commercial marine, in the prolongation of the war, and in the increased cost, both in treasure and in lives, if its suppression could not be adjusted and satisfied as ordinary commercial nations, and yet the convention treated them simply as such ordinary claims, from which they differ more widely in the gravity of their character than in the magnitude of their accounts. Great as is that difference, not a word was found in the treaty and not an inference could be drawn from it to remove the sense of the unfriendliness of the course of Great Britain in our struggle for existence, which had so decrease and misconcessite inverses the sense. of Great Britain in our struggle for existence, which had so deeply and universally impressed itself upon the people of this country. Believing that a conven-

tion thus misconceived in its scope and inadequate in its provisions would not have produced the hearty cordial settlement of pending questions which alone is consistent with the selections which I desire to have established between the United States and Great Britain, I regarded the action of the Senate in rejecting the treaty to have been wisely taken, in the interest of peace and as a necessary step, in the interest of peace and as a necessary step, in the the interest of peace and as a necessary step in the direction of a perfect and cordial friendship between the two countries. A sensitive people, conscious of their power, are more at ease under a great wrong wholly unatoned, than under the restraint of a settlement which satisfies neither their ideas of justice nor their gray sense of the grayeness. nor their grave sense of the grievance they have sustained. The rejection of the treaty was followed by a state of public feeling on both sides which I thought was favorable to an immediate attempt at renewal of negotialicus. I accordingly so instructed the minister of the United States to Great Britain, and found that my views in this regard were shored by her that my views in this regard were shared by her Majesty's minister. I hope that the time may soon arrive when the two governments can approach the solution of this momentous question with an appreciation of what is due to the rights, dignity, and honor of each, and with the determination not only to remove the causes of complete in the past, but to remove the causes of complaint in the past, but to lay the foundation of a broad principle of public law which will prevent further differences, and bind a firm and continued peace and friendship.

a firm and continued peace and friendship. This is now the only grave question which the United States have with any foreign nation.

The question of renewing a treaty for reciprocal trade between the United States and the British provinces on this continent, has not been favorably considered by the administration. The advantages of such a trenty would be wholly in favor of the British producer, except, possibly, a few engaged in the trade between the two sections. No citizen of the United States would be benefited by reciprocity. Our internal taxation would prove a protection to Our internal taxation would prove a protection to the British producer almost equal to the protection which our manufacturers now receive from the tariff. Some arrangement, however, for the regulation of commercial inter-course between the United States and the Dominion of Canada may be desirable.

of Canada may be desirable. of Canada may be desirable.

The commission for adjusting the claims of the
"Hudson Bay and Poget Sound Agricultural Company" upon the United States has terminated its
labors. The award of \$650,000 has been made and all the rights and titles of the company on the terri-tory of the United States have been extinguished. Deeds for the property of the company have been

delivered. An approperly of the company have been this sum is asked.

The commissioners for determining the northwestern hand boundary between the United States and the British possessions under the treaty of 1854, have completed their labors and the commission have been discolved. have been dissolved.

In conformity with the resolution of Congress, a proposition was early made to the British Government to abolish the mixed courts created under the treaty of April 7, 1862, for the suppression of the African slave trade. The subject is still under nego-

It having come to my knowledge that a corporate company, organized under British law, proposed to land upon the shores of the United States, and to operate there a submarine cable, under a concession from his Majesty the Emperor of the French of an exclusive right for twenty years of telegraphic communication between the shores of France and the United States, with the very objectionable feature of subjecting all messages conveyed thereby to the scratiny and control of the French Government, I caused the French and British Legations at Wash-ington to be made acquainted with the probable policy of Congress on the subject as foreshadowed by the bill which passed the Senate in March last, This drew from the representatives of the company an agreement to accept as the basis of their operations the provisions of that bill or of such other enactment on the subject as might be passed during the approaching session of Congress; also to use their influence to secure from the French Government a modification of their concession so as to permit the landing upon French soil of any cable belonging to any company incorporated by the authorities of the United States, or of any State in the Union, and on their part not to oppose the establishment of any such cable in consideration of this agreement. I directed the withdrawal of the opposition by the United States authorities to the landing of the cable, and to the working of it the landing of the cable, and to the working of it until the meeting of Congress. I regret to say that there has been no modification made in the company's concession, nor so far as I can learn have they attempted to secure one. Their concession excludes the capital and citizens of the United States from competition uponithe shores of France. I recommend legislation to protect the rights of citizens of the United States as well as the dignity and sovereignty of the nation against such an assumption. I shall also endeavor to secure by negotiation an abandonment of the principle of monopolies in an abandonment of the principle of monopolies in ocean telegraphic cables. Copies of this correspon-dence are herewith furnished. The unsettled politi-cal condition of other countries less fortunate than our own sometimes induces their citizens to come to the United States for the sole purpose of becoming naturalized. Having secured this, they return to their native country, and reside without disclos-ing their change of allegiance. They accept official positions of trust or honor, which can only be held by citizens of their native land. They journey under passports describing them as such citizens; and it is only when civil discord, after perhaps years of quiet, threatens their persons or their property, or when their native State drafts them into its military service, that the fact of their change of alle-giance is made krown. They reside permanently away from the United States; they contribute nothing to its revenues, they avoid the duties of its citizenship, and they only make themselves known by a claim of protection. I have directed the diplomatic and consular officers of the United States to scrutinize care-

fully all such claims of protection.

The citizen of the United States, whether native or adopted, who discharges his duty to his country, is entitled to its complete protection. While I have a voice in the direction of affairs I shall not consent to imperil this sacred right by conferring it upon fletitious or fraudulent claimants. On the accession of the present administration it was found that the Minister for North Germany had made prothat the Minister for North Germany had made pro-positions for the negotiation of a convention for the protection of emigrant passengers, to which no response had been given. It was concluded that, to be effectual, all the maritime powers engaged in the trade should be joined in such a measure. Invitations have been extended to the Cabinets of London, Baris, Florence, Berlin, Brussels, the Hague, Copenoagen, and Stockholm, to empower their representatives at Washington to simultaneously enter into negotia-tions, and to conclude with the United States conventions identical in form, making uniform regula-tions as to the construction of the parts of vessels to tions as to the construction of the parts of vessels to be devoted to the use of emigrant passengers, as to the quality of food, as to the medical treatment of the sick, and as to the rules to be observed during the voyage, in order to secure ventilation, to promote health, to prevent intrusion, to protect the females, and providing for the establishment of tribunals in the several countries for enforcing such regulations by summary process; and your attention is respectfully called to the law regulating the tariff on Russian hemp, and to the question whether to fix the charges hemp, and to the question whether to fix the charges on Russian hemp nigher than they are fixed upon Manilla is not a violation of our treaty with Russia, placing her products upon the same footing with those of the most favored nations.

hose of the most favored nations.

Our manufactures are increasing with wonderful rapidity, under the encouragement which they now receive. With the improvement in machinery

receive. With the improvement in machinery already effected, and still increasing, causing machinery to take the place of skilled labor to a large extent, our imports of many articles must fall or largely within a very few years.

Fortunately, too, manufacturers are not confined to a few localities, as formerly, and it is to be hoped will become more and more diffused, making the interest in them equal in all sections. They give employment and support to hundreds of thousands while decome more and more dimesed, making the interest in them equal in all sections. They give employment and support to hundreds of thousands of people at home, and retain with us the means which otherwise would be shipped abroad.

The extension of railroads in Europe and the East is bringing into competition with our agricultural products like products of other countries. Seifinterest, if not self-preservation, therefore, dictates caution against disturbing any industrial interest of the country. It teaches us also the necessity of looking to other markets for the sale of our surplus. Our neighbors south of us and China and Japan should receive our special attention. It will be the endeavor of the administration to cultivate such relations with all these nations as cultivate such relations with all these nations as to enlitle us to their confidence, and make it their in-terest, as well as ours, to establish better commor-

Through the agency of a more enlightened policy Through the agency of a more enlightened policy than that heretofore pursued towards China, largely due to the sagacity and efforts of one of our own distinguished citizens, the world is about to commence largely increased relations with that populous and hitherto exclusive nation. As the United States have been the initial control of the property of the whould be the most control of the property of the whould be the most control of the property of the whould be the most control of the property of the pro tors in this new policy, so they should be the most earnest in showing their good faith in making it a success. In this connection, I advise such legislation as will forever preclude the ensiavement of the Chinese upon our soil under the name of coolles, and also prevent American vessels from engaging in the transportation of coolies to any country tolerating the system. I also recommend that the mission to China be raised to one of the first class. On my assuming the responsible duties of Chief Magistrate of the United States, it was with the conviction that three things were essential to its peace, prosperity, and fullest development. First among these is a strict integrity in fulfilling all our obligations. Secondly, to insure protection to the person and property of the citizens of the United States in each and every portion of our common country, wherever he may chance to move, without reference to original nationality, religion, coigt, or politics, demandengaging in the transportation of coolies to any coun

irg only obedience to the laws, and proper respect for the rights of others. Third, Union of all the States, with equal rights, indestructible by any constitutional means.

States, with equal rights, indestructible by any constitutional means.

To secure the first of these, Congress has taken two essential steps—First, in declaring by joint resolution that the public debt should be paid, principal and interest, in coin, and second, by providing the means for paying. Providing the means, however, could not secure the object desired without a proper administration of the laws for the collection of the revenues and an economical disbursement of them. To this subject the administration has most earnestly addressed itself with results I hope satisfactory to the country. There has been no hesitation in changing officials in order to secure efficient execution of the laws. Sometimes, too, where in a mere party view, undeserved political results were likely to follow, nor any hesitation in sustaining efficient officials against remonstrances wholly political. It may be well to mention here the embarrassment possible to arise from leaving on the statute books the so-called Tenure-of-Office acts, and to earnestly recommend their total repeal. It could not have been the intention of the framers of the Constitution when providing that appointments made by the President should re-Constitution when providing that appointments made by the President should receive the consent of the Senate, that the latter should have the power to retain in office persons placed there by Federal appointment against the will of the President. The law is inconsistent with a faithful and efficient administration of sistent with a faithful and efficient administration of the Government. What faith can the Executive put in officials forced upon him, and those, too, whom he has suspended for reasons? How will such officials be likely to serve an administration which they know does not trust them? For the second requisite to our growth and prosperity, time and a firm but humane administration of existing laws, amended from time to time as they may prove in amended from time to time as they may prove in-effective or prove harsh and unnecessary, are pro-bably all that are required.

The third cannot be attained by special legislation but must be regarded as fixed by the Constitution liself, and gradually acquiesced in by force of public

From the foundation of the Government present time the management of the original inhabi-tants of the country, the Indians, has been a subject of embarrassment and expense, and has been at-tended with continuous robberies, murders, and wars. Frem my own experience upon the frontier and in Indian countries, I do not hold either legisla-tion or the conduct of the whites who come most in contact with the Indians blameless for these host ties. The past, however, cannot be undone, and the

question must be met as we now find it.

I have attempted a new policy towards these wards of the nation (they cannot be regarded in any other light than as wards), with fair results as far as tried, and which I hope will be attended ultimatel with great success. The Society of Friends is we known as having succeeded in living in peace with the Indians in the early settlement of Pennsylvania, while their white neighbors of other sects, in other sections, were constantly embroiled. They are also sections, were constantly embroiled. They are also known for their opposition to all strife, violence, and war, and are generally noted for their strict integrity and fair dealings. These considerations induced me to give the management of a few reservations of Indians to them, and to throw the burden of the selection of agents upon the Society itself. The result has proven most satisfactory. It will be found more fully set forth in the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. For superintendents and Indian agents no ton the reservations

intendents and Indian agents no ton the reservations officers of the army were selected. The reasons for this are numerous. When Indian agents are sent there, or near there, troops must be sent also. The agent and the commander of the troops are inde-pendent of each other, and are subject to orders from different departments of the Government. The

from different departments of the Government. The army officer holds a position for life; the agent one at the will of the President.

The former is personally interested in living in harmony with the Indian and in establishing a permanent peace, to the end that some portion of his life may be spent within the limits of civilized society; the latter has no such personal interest. Another reason is an economic one, and still another the hold which the Government has upon a life officer to secure a faithful discharge of his duties in officer to secure a faithful discharge of his duties in carrying out a given policy. The building of rail-roads, and the access thereby given to all the agri-cultural and mineral regions of the country is repletly bringing civilized settlements into contact with al the tribes of Indians. No matter what ought to be the relations between such settlements and the abort

gines, the fact is that they do not harmonize well, and one or the other has to give way in the end.

A system which looks to the extinction of a race is too horrible for a nation to adopt without entailing upon itself the wrath of all Christendom, and engendering in the citizen a disregard for human life and the rights of others dangerous to society. I see no substitute for such a system except in placing all the Indians on large reservations as rapidly as can be done, and giving them absolute protection there. As soon as they are fitted for it, they should be induced to take their lands in severalty, and to set up Territorial governments for their own protection. For full details on this subject I call your special attention to the Reports of the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The report of the Secretary of War shows the expenditures of the War Department for the year ending the 30th of June, 1869, to be \$80,644,052, of which \$23,882,310 was disbursed in the payment of debts 23,882,310 was disbursed in the payment of debis contracted during the war, and is not chargeable to current army expenses. His estimate of \$34,831,031 for the expenses of the army for the next fiscal year

is as low as it is believed can be relied on. The estimates of bureau officers have been carefully scrutinized and reduced wherever it has been deemed practicable. If, however, the condition of the country should be such, by the beginning of the next fiscal year, as to admit of a greater concentranext fiscal year, as to admit of a greater concentra-tion of troops, the appropriation asked for will not

The appropriations estimated for river and harbon improvements and for fortifications are submitted separately. Whatever amount Congress may deem proper to appropriate for these purposes will be ex-pended. The recommendation of the General of the army, that appropriations be made for the forts at Boston, Portland, New York, Philadelphia, New Or-Boston, Portland, New York, Philadelphia, New Orleans, and San Francisco, if for no others, is concurred in. I also ask your special attedtion to the recommendation of the general commanding the Military Division of the Pacific for the sale of the Scal islands of St. George and St. Paul, Alaska Territory, and suggest that it either be compiled with, or that legislation be had for the protection of the scal fisheries, from which a revenue should be derived was \$2,527.579 less than the increased expenditures in 1e8, showing by comparison this gratifying feain 1988, showing by comparison this gratifying feature of improvement, that while the increese of expenditures over the increase of receipts in 1868 was \$2,439,535, the increase of receipts over the increase of expenditures in 1868 was \$1,081,371.

Your attention is respectfully called to the recom-mendations made by the Postmaster-General for authority to change the rate of compensation to the main trunk railroad lines for their services in con-veying the mails, for laving post route maps exe-cuted, for reorganizing the efficiency of the special agency service, for the increase of the mail service on the Pacific, and for establishing mail ser-vice under the flag of the Union on the Atlantic; and most especially do I call your attention to his recom-mendation for the total abolition of effe franking privilege. This is an abuse from which no one receives a commensurate advantage. It reduces the receipts for postal service from 25 to 30 per cent. and largely increases the service to be performed.

The report of the Secretary of War contains a synopsis of the reports of the heads of bureas, of the commanders of multiary divisions and of the diffricts of Virginia, Mississippi, and Texas, and the report of the General of the Atmy in full. The recommendations therein contained have been well considered and are submitted for your action. I however call special attention to the recommendation of the Chief of Ordnance for the sale of avenues and lands no longer of use to the Government. Also, to the recommendation of the Secretary of War that the act of March 3d, 1869, prohibiting promotions and appointments on the staff corns of the army, be recalled. The overstated country to be garrisoned and appointments on the staff corns of the army, be repealed. The extent of country to be garrisoned and
the number of military posts to be occupied, is the
same with a reduced army as with a large one, and a
large number of staff officers required is more dependent
upon the latter than the former condition.

The report of the Scarretary of the Navy accompanying this shows the condition of the navy when
this administration came into office and the changes
made since.

Strenuous efforts have been made to place as

Strenuous efforts have been made to place as many vessels in commission, or render them fit for service if required, as possible, and to substitute the sail for steam whilst cruising, thus materially re-

sail for steam whilst cruising, thus materially reducing the expenses of the navy and adding greatly to its efficiency. Looking to our future, I recommend a liberal, though not extravagant, policy towards this branch of the public service.

The report of the Postmaster-General furnishes a clear and comprehensive exhibit of the operations of the postal service and of the financial condition of the Post Office Department. The ordinary postal revenues for the year ending the 30th of June, 1869, amounted to \$18,344,510, and the expenditures to \$25,351,31, showing an excess of expenditures over receipts of \$5,33,620. The excess of expenditures over receipts of \$5,33,620. The excess of expenditures to \$6,437,772. The income of revenues for 1869 over those of 1868 was \$2,951,909, and the increase of expenditures was \$367,538. The increased revenue in penditures was \$967,538. The increased revenue in 1869 exceeded the increased revenue in 1869 by \$996,236, and the increased expenditures in 1869.

The method by which postage should be paid upon public matter is set forth fully in the report of the Postmerster General

Postmaster-General.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior shows that the quantity of public lands disposed of during the year ending the 30th of June, 1869, was 7.666, 152 acres, exceeding that of the preceding year by 1,010,409 acres. Of this amount, 2,899,544 acres were sold for cash and 2,737,e66 acres entered under the Homestead law. The remainder was granted to aid in the construction of works of Internal im-

The cash receipts from all sources were \$4,472,295, exceeding those of the preceding year \$2,840,140. During the last fiscal pear, 28,196 names were added to the pension rolls and 4876 dropped therefrom, leaving at its close 187,963. The amount paid to pensioners, including the compensation of disbursing agents was \$28,492,884, an increase of \$4,411,902 on that of the preuious year. The munificence of Congress has been conspicuously manifested in its legislation for the soldiers and sailors who suffered in the recent struggle to maintain that unity of Government which makes us one people. The additions to the pension rolls of each successive year since the conclusion of hostilities result in a great degree from the repeated amendments of the act of the 14th of July, 1862, which extended its provisions to cases not falling within its original scope. The large outlay which it thus occasioned is further increased by the more liberal allowance bestowed since that date upon those who, in the line of duty, were wholly or permanently disabled. line of duty, were wholly or permanently disabled. Public opinion has given an emphatic sanction to these measures of Congress, and it will be conceded that no part of our public burden is more cheerfully borne than that which is imposed by this branch of the service. It necessitates for the next fiscal year, in addition to the amount justly chargeable to the the reverties for the next fiscal per this to the reverties for the next fiscal per this to the reverties for the next fiscal per this to the reverties for the next fiscal per this to the reverties for the next fiscal per this per this

in addition to the amount justly chargeable to to the naval pension fund, an appropriation of thirty million dollars. During the year ending the 30th of September, 1869, the patent office issued 13,762 patents, and its receipts were \$686,389, being \$213,926 more than the expenditures.

I would respectfully call your attention to the recommendation of the Secretary of the Interior for uniting the duties of supervising the education of freedmen with the other dusies devolving upon the Commissioner of Education, if it is the desire of Congress to make the census which must be taken during the year 1879 more complete and perfect than hererofore, I would suggest early action upon any plan that may be agreed upon. action upon any plan that may be agreed upon. Af Congress at the last session appointed a commit-tee to take into consideration such measures as might be deemed proper in reference to the census, and to report a plan I desist from saying more. I recommend to your [favorable consideration claims of the Agricultural favorable consideration claims of the Agricultural burean for liberal appropriations in a country so diversified in climate and such as ours, and with a population so largely dependent upon agriculture. The benefits that can be conferred by properly fostering this bureau are incalculable. I desire respectfully to call the attention of Congress to the inadequate salaries of a number of the most important officers of the Government. In this message I will not enbmerate them, but will specify only the Justices of the Supreme Court, no change has been made in their salaries for fifteen years, and within that time the labors of the court have largely within that time the labors of the court have largely increased, and the expenses of living have at least doubled during the same time. Congress has since found it necessary to increase largely the compensa-tion of its own members, and the duty which it owes to another department of the Government deserves, and will undoubtedly receive its due consideration There are many subjects not alluded to in this message, which might with propriety be introduced, but I abstain, believing that yor patriotism and

statesmanship will suggest the topics and the legis-lation most conducive to the interests of the whole people. On my part I promise a rigid adherence to people. On my part 1 promise the laws and their strict inforcement.

U. S. GRANT.

CITY INTELLIGENCE

BETHANY FAIR .- To kill two birds with one stone has always been considered a difficult, and, when possible, a very wise thing to do. And it does some-times happen that one may by a single effort accomplish two objects seemingly diverse. For instance, at the grand fair to be opened next week in behalf of the Bethany Presbyterian Church of this city, any benevolently-disposed person may make a single visit, serve the double purpose of alding a most worthy charity and of making purchase of appro-priate articles for Christmas presents and New Year gifts. Certainly the object is a good one, and Bethany, if any mission work has, has a claim upon the sympathy and support of all Philadelphians. Every sympathy and support of all Philadelphians. Every one, then, who aids this fair, if it only be to the extent of purchasing a ten cent ticket, can feel that he has done so much to help on a good work. But, to say nothing about the musical entertainment, the pleasant social intercourse, and many other attractive features, this fair is to be so conducted as to be fully worth a visit apart from the object it seeks to aid. In fact, it is designed to have almost everything there, fancy goods, books, toys, chromos, housekeeping goods, wrappers, and a great number of articles made by the fair hands of our own ladies, and all these are to be disposed of at but a moderate if any advance upon the store prices.

No efforts will be spared to make this the fair of the season, and in the hands of such efficient managers, who have so often distinguished themselves in this line and many others, we feel safe in predicting a great success for Bethany Fair.

a great success forBethany Fair.

LOCAL ODDS AND ENDS .- The weather yesterday morning was rough, rougher last night, and the roughest this morning that we have yet experienced

for the door to come around." He had been to "see a man."

The regular lectures of the Pennsylvania Col. ege of Veterinary Surgeons will commence to-mor-

ege of veterinary Surgeons will commence to-mor-ow evening, at 7% o'clock, at the rooms of the col-ege, No. 256 North Fifth street.

—The Mormons say that Brigham Young can defeat all the reporters that the devir ever created. Complimentary, aint it?

—Why does not the Eighth Street Passenger Rail-

way Company run cars up to 12 o'clock Sunday -Mark Twain is in town, and has been interiewed.

ewed. —The German Hospital Association needs funds. —The Tobacco trade meets to-night. -Christmas is coming. OUR DIRTY STREETS.—The following is a specimen of the thousand and one letters received by High Constable John Kelch since the publication of the list of streets, by him reported dirty, in The Eventual Constable Programmes.

KING TELEGRAPH :-FRILADELPHIA, Dec. 2, 1829.—John Kelch, Esq., High Constable—Dear Sir.—In your report to the Board of Health of neglect on the part of the cleansing contractors, it would gratify the residents of Frankin street, above Columbia avenue, to have due attention called to that locality.

Columbia avenue, to have the attention columbia avenue, to have the attention of the contracts were made until the present, it has been unvisited by a scavengor's broom or shovel, and the accumulations of dirt-carts and hay-wagons choke up the gutters, and our efforts to promote cleanliness are entirely unavailing.

Had we been favored but once with the streat-cleaners' appendages, we would have lived in hope that our locality was upon the contract, and at some future time we would have been cheered by their presence, and now in despair solicit your powerful influence.

On behalf of the residents, FRANKLIN STRFET.

Mr. Kelch has also received numerous letters from the street contractors, setting forth that they have done their duty, etc.; but the condition of the streets plainly shows how much they have done. DARING ATTEMPT AT HIGHWAY ROBBERY, -Shortly

after 10 o'clock this morning a clerk in the employ M. Thomas & Sons was sent to bank to obtain th M. Thomas & Sons was sent to bank to obtain the cash for a check calling for \$1800. Having obtained it, he started on his return to the firm's establishment, when, on turning into Harmony court, a daring highwasman stepped outfrom a doorway just above Third street, and, with the rapidity of desperation, struck him two severe blows upon the head with a black-lack. The clerk, although somewhat stunned, held on to the money, when the scoundred seeing that his shots had failed in object, immediately made tracks.

distely made tracks.

In this connection we would warn our brokers, and other business men, that they cannot exercise too scrupulous a care over their cash, and they should see that it be entrusted to none other than responsible parties. Our city is now flied with some of the most audacious and skilful knucks and cracks—men and the well-known includency of our notice. men, and the well-known inefficiency of our police force only tends to lead them on to the attempting of deeds never before dreamed of here.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ENTERPRISE.—The lecture room of the St. George's M. E. Church, which so recently celebrated its centennial anniversary, has been recently refitted at an expense of about \$2000, and yesterday afternoon the Sunday School, which has been holding its sessions in the galleries of the church while the improvements were being made, again took possession of its old quarters. The occasion drew together a large audience, and was one of much interest. The exercises commenced at two o'clock, addresses being delivered in order by Colomuch interest. The exercises commenced at two o'clock, addresses being delivered in order by Colonel Wright, of the Arch Street, M. E. Church; Rev. Adam Wallace, editor of the Methodist Home Journal; Peter D. Myers, Esq., of St. George's; his Honor Mayor Fox; the Rev. Dr. Kynett, Secretary of the M. E. Church Extension Society; and Chaplain McCabe, of Cincinnati. The latter, who is one of the sweetest singers in Israel, also gratified the audience by singing several hymns in his effective and attractive style.

To BE HEARD AT THE CENTRAL STATION,—Frank Warburton was found at an early hour yesterday morning, sleeping on a sofa in the parior of a house on Cinten street, below Tenth. Suspected of being there for no good purpose, he was arrested.

George Kline was arrested in West Philadelphia in possession of a horse and wagon, which it is alleged he stole from Frankford. He was offering the animal and vehicle at a remarkably low figure. Both cases will be heard at the Central Station this afternoon.

SURRENDERED HIMSELF,-This morning, Samuel B. Goff, the young man who was exhibiting the quality of the Excelsior refined fluid on Saturday in Frankford, the explosion of which caused the death of Ciara Oldfield, surrendered himself into the castoly of Chief Kelly. He will be held to await the Coroner's investigation.

provement, apportioned to these States as swamp lands, and located with warrants and scrip. The cash receipts from all sources were \$4,472,286,

WASHINGTON

Scenes at the Opening of Congress-The Trouble with the Alabama Members-Mr. Sumner on the Cuban Question-The Monster Philadelphia Petition.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Good Feeling Among Members.

Special Despatch to The Evening Telegraph.

Washington, Dec. 6.—The assembling of Congress was marked by the usual hand-skaking and congratulations among Senators and members, and by large crowds in the galleries. The roll-call in the House showed one hundred and eighty members present. Several members elect, who were not present at the last session, presented themselves and were sworn in. Objection was made to several members from Alabama, and they were not sworn. The House, after appointing a committee to wait on the President, took a recess for an hour.

The Joint Committee to Call on the President.

The Joint Committee to Call on the President. The joint committee of the two houses, to wait on the President and inform him that a quorum was present and ready to proceed to business, are Sena-tors Wilson and Thurman, and Representatives Schenck, Davis, and Woodward.

The Virginia Members. General Farnsworth will offer a resolution referring the case of the Virginia members to the Committee on Reconstruction. This will prevent them from being sworn in until an investigation is had of their case. Several prominent men of the Welisparty from Virginia were on the floor of the House and Senate, to day, urging that the Virginia delega-tion be not admitted.

Summer an Anti-Cubanite. Senator Summer announces that he will oppose all attampts to grant belligerent rights to Cuba. Cameron a Cubanite.

General Cameron will present a large petition from Philadelphia in favor of the Cabans, and more its reference to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

FROM NEW YORK.

Despatch to The Evening Telegraph. New York, Dec. 6.—Money is active at 6@7, with majority transactions at the latter figure. Gold opened at 122%, advanced to 123%, and afterwards receded to %. The transactions are large, the policy of Boutwell having seemingly encouraged dealers to indulge more largely in speculations. Governments opened unusually strong on cable advices of a rise of 1 per cent, abroad, and an advance of nearly 2 per cent, was reached. Stocks were strong at the per cent, was reached. Stocks were strong at the opening, but fell off towards noon. The weakness was most apparent. Rhode Island was quoted at 107½; Pacific Mail, 50½; Northwestern, 74½; and Central consolidated, 90½.

TILL TAPPED.—Samuel Jackson and Howard Wil-liams on Saturday tapped a till of \$2 at the tayern of Peter Kelly, No. 511 S. Sixth street. They were taken before Alderman Kerr, who held them for

HOUSE F JKNISHING GOODS.

ARCH STREET.

GRIFFITH & PAGE

HOLIDAY LIST.

BRONZES,

TEA TRAYS.

CARVED WOOD,

CUTLERY,

PLATED WARE.

-A chip was last night found sitting on a cellar-door, holding a large-sized key in his hand. On being questioned as to his intents he replied, "I'm waiting

EDWARD J. WILLIAMS.

No. 922 CHESNUT Street.

House-Furnishing Goods.

Will reduce our stock, previous to removal.

At Very Low Prices Indeed.

Christmas Goods OFFERED AT COST, 112 1 wfmt25rp

CREAT BARCAINS, FOR THE HOLIDAYS

House Furnishing Goods

TABLE CUTLERY AT THE NEW STORE, No. 824 ARCH Street.

> J. H. CHRIST & BROS. PUBLIC SALE.

CPECIAL SALE OF A STOCK

ELEGANT

CABINET FURNITURE.

Messrs, MEININGER & GUENTHER respectfully inorm their friends and the public that they will sell at Public Sale on TUESDAY MORNING,

December 7, at 10 o'clock, at the Auction Store of

THOMAS BIRCH & SON

No. 1110 Chesnut Street.

Their Entire Stock of Finished

CABINET FURNITURE.

Comprising an assortment of Elegant Parlor, Chamber, and Dining-Room Furniture,

Manufactured expressly for their CUSTOMER SALES.

The Furniture can be examined at the Auction Stere

MEININGER & GUENTHER,

No. 532 N. TENTH Street.